

## Message Text

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44

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

SY-02 SCCT-01 USSS-00 A-01 SCA-01 AID-05 FBIE-00

MED-01 SS-14 NSC-07 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

PA-01 PRS-01 DRC-01 DODE-00 L-02 /059 W

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O 081740Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1732

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTO DOMINGO 4178

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS

SUBJECT: HUTCHISON CASE: LETTER FROM BARBARA HUTCHISON OF  
FRIDAY, OCT. 4

REF: SANTO DOMINGO 4127

1. DURING THE MEETING MY SPANISH AND VENEZUELAN COLLEAGUES AND I HAD WITH PRESIDENT BALAGUER EVENING OCT 7, I NOTED TO HIM THAT WE STILL HAD NOT RECEIVED THE LETTERS ADDRESSED TO US WHICH MENDEZ VARGAS HAD GIVEN TO US AT THE TIME OF THE DELIVERY OF PROVISIONS LAST FRIDAY (REFTEL PARA 5) AND WHICH THE POLICE COLONEL INSISTED WE TURN OVER TO HIM AT THE TIME. THE PRESIDENT WONDERED WHY WE HADN'T GOTTEN THEM YET. I EXPLAINED THAT, IN RESPONSE TO OUR INQUIRIES ON THE LETTERS, GUZMAN HAD REFERRED US TO QUEZADA AND QUEZADA TO GUZMAN BUT WE WERE STILL AWAITING THEM. THE PRESIDENT SAID HE WOULD LOOK INTO THIS. AFTER OUR MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT, HIS PRIVATE SECRETARY, BELLO ANDINO, CALLED ME AT THE EMBASSY TO TELL ME HAD OBTAINED THE LETTERS. WHEN I TOLD HIM MY SPANISH AND VENEZUELAN COLLEAGUES WERE WITH ME, BELLO CAME PROMPTLY TO THE EMBASSY AND DELIVERED THE LETTERS TO US.

2. THE TEXT OF HUTCHINSON'S HANDWRITTEN LETTER IS AS FOLLOWS: BEGIN  
QUOTE FRIDAY A.M. DEAR BOSS: IF WE ARE TO REMAIN HERE INTO  
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NEXT WEEK, SOMETHING MUST BE DONE ABOUT THE WATER SUPPLY.

THIS IS A HOT BOX, AND TWO GALLONS IS A TONTERIA UNDER THESE CONDITIONS. (1) SANTIAGO, THE PADRE, HAS ONLY ONE KIDNEY AND SHOULD HAVE 4 LITROS MINIMUM LIQUID PER DAY (UNDER NORMAL SITUATIONS). (2) I DON'T GET ENOUGH WATER--BEING ACCUSTOMED TO 34 OUNCES OF MILK-WATER-JUICE PER DAY--TO STOMACH THE SANDWICHES, COULD SOME LIQUID FOOD (QUART OF MILK, EGGNOG OR MILKSHAKE OR CAFE CON LECHE) BE SUBSTITUTED FOR MY SANDWICH? HAVE EATEN SUM TOTAL OF 1/2 SANDWICH SINCE SUNDAY, SO MONSEÑOR POLANCO'S CAFE CON LECHE TUESDAY WAS A GODSEND FOR THE WEEK. IN ANY EVENT, MORE WATER FOR ALL IS ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL. AS THE TANK OF NONPOTABLE WAS SEAWATER, OUR INGENUITY WAS BLOCKED COMPLETELY.

WE WROTE ALL THREE AMBASSADORS OF THE POLICE PROVOCATION WED. MORNING (THE 6TH CRISIS) BUT DOUBT IF THE POLICE COMMAND PASSED THEM ON. WE HAD ANOTHER INTIMIDATION LAST NIGHT (ORIGINALLY PLANNED FOR WEDNESDAY, WHICH HAD TO BE POSTPONED BECAUSE OF YOUR CHARITY VISIT). I HOPE TO COMMUNICATE THIS IN ENGLISH AND LOUD WHEN YOU VISIT TODAY. THERE IS LITTLE DOUBT THAT THE POLICE AND ARMY ARE SO ANXIOUS TO HAVE A DEAD COMANDO 12 ENERO THAT 7 HOSTAGES DEAD MAKE NO DIFFERENCE. OR AT LEAST, THIS IS MY READING OF THE ACTIVITIES AT THIS END OF THE STREET; AND GENERAL GUZMAN ACOSTA'S CHARMING WORDS DID NOTHING TO ALLEVIATE MY OPINION.

WE HOPE SOME CIGARETTES ARRIVE--THEY DO HELP TO CALM THE NERVES. AS FOR THE OTHER THINGS REQUESTED, NO WASH-AND-DRY TOWELS, OR COLOGNE SPRAY ARRIVED--SO THE POLICE HAVE SUNK SO DESPICABLY LOW\* BEST, BARBARA REVERSE NOTE FOR JUNE JUNE--PLEASE SEND MORE OF THOSE SANITARY GOODIES (TAMPAX), KLEENEX, ALSO VITAMIN C PILLS (MY MOUTH AND TEETH ARE GOING TO PIECES WITHOUT MILK AND JUICE). TELL CONSUELO (AND TITA, THE MAID) TO SEND IN ORDINARY SHOPPING BAG. I'VE ALREADY COLLECTED TWO AIRLINE BAGS, WHICH SEEM SOMEWHAT FRIVOLOUS GIVEN THE MISERABLE CONDITIONS.

THANKS FOR THINGS THAT DID COME. B H

I HOPE CONSUELO IS KEEPING MY MAID SUPPLIED WITH MONEY?  
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B H END QUOTE

3. COMMENT: PERHAPS THE REFERENCES TO THE POLICE IN HUTCHISON'S LETTER ARE RELATED TO THE EVIDENT RELUCTANCE OF THE DOMINICAN AUTHORITIES TO DELIVER THE LETTER TO ME. THEY HAD ALREADY TOLD ME OF TWO POINTS IN THE LETTER - THE REQUESTS FOR VITAMIN C PILLS AND FOR PROVIDING MONEY TO HER

MAID (THESE REQUESTS HAVE NOW BEEN FULFILLED) - BUT HAD OTHERWISE NOT REVEALED THE CONTENTS DESPITE MY REPEATED REQUESTS TO QUEZADA AND GUZMAN TO GET THE LETTER.

4. THE LETTER EVIDENCES THE STRAIN WHICH I NOTED DURING MY CONVERSATION WITH HUTCHISON DURING FRIDAY'S DELIVERY (REFTEL, PARA 4). HOWEVER, ON THE OCCASIONS WHEN I HAVE SEEN AND SPOKEN TO HER SINCE, SHE APPEARED TO BE IN BETTER SPIRITS. THE REFERENCE IN THE LETTER TO HAVING EATEN "THE SUM TOTAL OF 1/2 SANDWICH SINCE SUNDAY" IS PUZZLING IN LIGHT OF THE DAILY FOOD DELIVERIES. IT COULD MEAN THAT THE FOOD IS NOT BEING SHARED AS WE ASSUMED - A SANDWICH PER PERSON DAILY, OR THAT HUTCHISON IS UNABLE TO TOLERATE MORE FOOD BECAUSE OF THE SPARSE WATER INTAKE (SHE SAYS SHE DOESN'T GET ENOUGH WATER TO STOMACH THE SANDWICHES), OR BOTH. MORE PROBABLY THE WORD "DAILY" WAS INADVERTENTLY OMITTED FROM THE SENTENCE. THE DISCOMFORT FROM THE LIMITED WATER INTAKE SHOULD HAVE BEEN EASED TO SOME EXTENT BY THE INCREASED WATER SUPPLIES DELIVERED SINCE LAST FRIDAY. WE NEVER DID RECEIVE THE NOTE OF WEDNESDAY CONCERNING POLICE PROVOCATIONS REFERRED TO IN THE ABOVE QUOTED LATTER. IT WAS PROBABLY A NOTE IN THE BOTTLE WHICH WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED WAS THROWN OUT THE CONSULATE WINDOW LAST WEDNESDAY, OCT. 2. IN RESPONSE TO OUR QUERIES, THE POLICE PROFESSED NO KNOWLEDGE OF THIS NOTE - FROM ITS SUBJECT, WE CAN UNDERSTAND WHY THE POLICE WOULD RATHER CONSIGN IT TO LIMBO.

HURWITCH

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## Message Attributes

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